

# Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1828, April 3, 1954

## HONG KONG HEROINE

### Valiant work of a Scots nurse among the refugees

BACK in Hong Kong after a brief visit to her native Scotland, Miss Helen D. Wilson has again taken up the job she started two years ago among the 20,000 refugees in Rennie's Mill Camp on the shores of Junk Bay near Hong Kong.

For 30 years Miss Wilson worked for the Church of Scotland at Ichang, in Manchuria. There, on the borders of Russia-in-Asia, she became well-known for her hospital work, and was greatly loved for her gift of friendship as well as of healing.

For two years the Communist Government allowed her to stay in the city, but in the early summer of 1951 she was taken across China under armed guard and allowed to cross the border into Hong Kong.

Although then entitled to come home at once, she decided to pay one visit to the refugee camp just outside Hong Kong city—and immediately went there to live. Six thousand Chinese refugees had then poured over the border into the camp, increasing their numbers to 20,000.

Miss Wilson's first home in the camp was a hut made of bamboo-mat with a leaf roof which was not exactly waterproof. However, she has now moved into a wooden hut which does not leak.

Miss Wilson determined from

the first that she would live as a refugee. That is the secret of her influence in the camp.

She eats the camp food, and takes her place in the queue for her rations. Looking over the camp, she says, is like looking over a sea of paper, bamboo, and wooden huts.

Paper huts are the ones most refugees have to live in first, gradually building themselves more substantial dwellings. The big huts house from 20 to 60 people each, usually several big families.

#### COD LIVER OIL QUEUES

The children of the camp in their variously coloured trousers are the joy of the place, and Miss Wilson's job is to see that they get the right sort of food. She has arranged a vitamin clinic for them, and has a daily queue for cod liver oil.

In this camp there are all kinds of Chinese people coming from all parts of China. The one thing they have in common is not wanting to live under the rule of the Communists.

The poor and the rich live side by side, serving together on the camp committee. The Hong Kong Government employ six officials to supervise. Simple Chinese food is provided, and hot water. But no fires are allowed, for the paper and bamboo huts would quickly blaze with the smallest spark.

#### CAMP OF FREEDOM

Most of the callers at Miss Wilson's clinic are suffering from dizziness, weakness in the legs, and pains in the arms and legs due to insufficient food. The majority of the 20,000 refugees have no work to do and this is the greatest handicap of all.

But the camp at least means freedom for them to live their lives in their own way, and for that they are truly grateful, despite the hardships.

Twice a week Miss Wilson makes the journey into Hong Kong to get a few hours away from the restriction of her little wooden hut in the camp.

Her story has brought help from all parts of the world for, while the Government provide the basic necessities of living, Miss Wilson finds that the children especially love just those same "little extras" which are appreciated by children in every part of the world.

## Lunch in the Sunshine at St. Paul's



## 30 MILES A DAY BY DOG-SLED

How far can a dog-sled team travel in a day? Government rangers of the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests have been covering daily distances of between 15 and 30 miles with a regulation load and a dog-sled team.

Indians, who also use dog-sled transport on their journeys from Bear Island over the frozen Lake Temagami, estimate four hours for a 15-mile trip, but they prefer to travel at night when the snow conditions are better. Two rangers in the Algonquin Park, trailing a pack of wolves, are said to have averaged 30 miles a day for five days, mostly through bush country. Some experts say that a good dog team, with a skilled, experienced driver, can cover up to 100 miles a day with a light load.

#### WANT TO BUY A SHIP?

The Greek Navy is selling a cruiser, two destroyers, three submarines, two torpedo boats, ten M.T.B.s and a steamer. They can be bought singly or as a complete fleet. But the snag is that they are all at the bottom of the Gulf of Athens and buyers will have to salvage them before selling for scrap.

## GATE-CRASHING HIPPO

Uganda's great new hydro-electric scheme at the Nile's source has had its first visitor—a hippopotamus! Gate-crashing at the Owen Falls plant—to be officially opened by the Queen on April 29—it almost caused disaster.

The hippo made a dawn appearance in the gleaming control block. This overlooks the roaring Nile waters which are made to pour between mighty concrete walls as they begin their journey from Lake Victoria.

The eyes of Mr. Marks, the control engineer, fairly popped when he saw the animal lumbering down the corridor towards him.

Delicate instruments and dials were in obvious danger as the inquisitive hippo thudded towards the control-room door. Mr. Marks

tried to "shoo" it away. Annoyed by this interruption of its morning stroll, the beast lowered its massive head and charged. The British engineer, taking evasive action, slipped and badly wrenched his shoulder.

But the scuffle had served to divert the hippo from the instrument-panels. Turning, it lumbered down to the visitors' gallery, paused, and stared down the length of the glittering new power station, where machinery hummed. Finally, unable to negotiate the stairs, it turned again, smashing two corridor windows, and trundled back the way it had come.

When the Owen Falls senior engineer raced in to answer Mr. Marks's telephone SOS, he saw the hippo strolling amiably along the dusty road to breakfast in the sunny Nile.

## BEEKEEPERS ALL

Seven-year-old David Brownridge, of Garforth, has kept bees since he was three, when he was given a hive by his grandfather, 70-year-old Mr. Albert Brownridge, a beekeeper for well over half a century. David, in fact, is the youngest member of Leeds Beekeepers' Association.

The family beekeeping record spans four generations. Mr. Brownridge's father-in-law kept bees for nearly 70 years and had 50 hives in straw skeps. David's father has 20 hives.

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# ALL EYES ON MR BUTLER

By the CN Press Gallery Correspondent

MR. BUTLER'S third Budget speech next Tuesday is awaited with cautious optimism. This phrase, much overworked nowadays, sums up the attitude of Parliament, for the nation's economy is still so delicately balanced that the slightest tremor may upset it.

The Budget is not only the nation's housekeeping account, but a great instrument of economic and financial planning. And it is shaped by what goes on in the world beyond our shores as well as by our own internal needs.

When we think of school meals and hospital beds, of old age pensions, family allowances, and income tax, we must also think of the Sydney Conference and the Randall Commission.

Mr. Butler and the Commonwealth Finance Ministers in Australia last January discussed



The Chancellor of the Exchequer

expansion of Commonwealth (sterling area) trade, and plans for talks with the United States on the removal of barriers to world trade.

A commission of United States businessmen and economists under Mr. Clarence Randall reported to their Government earlier this year on ways and means of easing customs and other bars to American trade with foreign suppliers, including Britain.

Development of these policies must affect Britain's budgets in this and future years.

This country lives by foreign trade, by exports. So do many other lands, whose exports are our imports. We are just managing to pay our way by trimming imports and expanding exports.

If we buy more imports of food and raw materials than we can pay for with exports, we are said to have "an adverse trade balance." The difference between our overseas revenue and expendi-

ture must be made up out of our reserve of gold and dollars.

If the reserve dwindled we should at best have to ration our food; and our factories might stop for want of raw materials.

Nothing like this is going to happen, or is likely to happen. But these are factors our Chancellor must always have in mind. He must be sensitive also to signs of "recession" or trade slump in the United States. Unemployment in that great potential market would mean fewer buyers of British goods, the raising of tariffs and customs duties to protect American home industries, and consequently fewer dollars to Britain's credit.

## BUDGET PROBLEMS

That in turn would react on our internal economy: a shortage of work here would mean fewer buyers for British goods on the home market.

The other side of the picture involves prices. If coal and transport charges go up, for instance, they raise the cost of producing export goods. In recent years the march of prices has created demands for higher wages, which add to production costs.

Taxation is another important factor in costs. Mr. Butler has had much advice during past months—to cut petrol and purchase taxes and entertainments duty. He has been asked to grant equal pay for women; to find an extra £16,500,000 a year for Forces pay, and an extra £260,000 for retired Service officers and ex-civil servants; and to sustain a defence programme at £1,640,000,000—nearly one-third of the Budget.

What we can be sure of is that the aim of Mr. Butler's third Budget, as of the first two, will be to strengthen confidence in the pound sterling. If that object can be secured we may expect the Chancellor to add further to the £600,000,000 a year of tax concessions he has made since 1951.

## WITCH-PROOFING THE HOME

THE days when people's lives were darkened by fear of witchcraft were recalled recently when a late 17th century "witch-bottle" was dug up at Stepney, London.

A kind of jug with a narrow neck, it contained various articles believed to give protection against evil spells—some human hair, finger-nail parings, twisted wire, a piece of cloth pierced by brass pins, and some hand-made nails.

These witch-bottles, also called Bellarmines, were often buried under the threshold or hearth of a house, to give the family a feeling of security against any neighbour suspected of the "black art."

Belief in it, however, was decaying even when the Stepney bottle was buried, and the last trial for witchcraft in England was in 1712.

## THE INCHCAPE LIGHT

Most of us know Robert Southey's ballad, The Inchcape Rock. A kind of sequel to the story was told recently in Washington by the National Geographic Society.

In the early years of last century the beacon in the tower of the Inchcape or Bell Rock Lighthouse provided one of the best known navigation marks on the East Coast.

In 1842, when the beacon was replaced by a stronger light, the old light was sent to Cape Bonavista, in Newfoundland, where it now acts as a warning to the fishing fleets off the rugged coasts of England's oldest colony. Thus a light from the Old World still shines clear and bright in the New.

## MODERN AND ANCIENT

The new Ellerman liner, City of Durban (13,360 tons), and last of four similar ships built by Vickers-Armstrongs at Walker-on-Tyne, is to have a state room furnished in Georgian style with antique wood panelling from some of our great houses in England and Ireland.

Many of the fittings will be over 200 years old; but in the sister ships modern furnishings are used.

Due for completion at the end of this month, the City of Durban will be employed on the South African run.

## N.Z. PARLIAMENT CENTENARY

May 24 (Empire Day) will mark the centenary of New Zealand's first Parliament opening in Auckland.

Prime Minister the Rt. Hon. S. G. Holland announced recently that a committee has been formed to consider just how this historic date in New Zealand's history is to be celebrated. One suggestion is that a monument or plaque be erected in Auckland on the site of the first meeting place, near the present Supreme Court buildings.

## OLD FAITHFUL

Horse trams have outlasted electric trams in Ireland. The last electric tramway closed in March; but there is still a horse tram at Fintona Junction.

## News from Everywhere

U.S. experts removed 10,000 starlings from an American town by recording the distress cry of the bird and playing it back.

The Yorkshire Automobile Club, which has just gone out of existence, has given its funds (over £1000) to the Leeds' Poor Children's Holiday Club Association.

### BOB-A-JOB WEEK

The Boy Scouts' Bob-a-Job Week is to be from April 19 to 24.

Canadians used the telephone more than anyone else during 1952. Each person made an average of 389 calls.

Queen Juliana of the Netherlands is to visit Britain during May.

A skate nearly seven feet long and weighing 156 lbs. has been caught in the Bristol Channel.

A new naval destroyer, H.M.S. Diana, has fluorescent lighting, silver-coloured corridors, and cabins in pastel shades.

### COLOURED WOOL

Farmers in the West Country are dyeing lambs bright blue or scarlet. The smell of the dye keeps foxes away.

Stone implements and weapons believed to be 10,000 years old have been discovered at Durgapur, West Bengal.

### RADIO CALLS FOR COAL

People living at the new Essex towns of Basildon and Harlow will be able to give their orders for coal to a van fitted with radio-telephone, the driver passing on the orders to his coal yard.

According to a recent survey, the United States has 27 million cats and 23 million dogs. Between them they eat 1500 million tins of canned pet food each year!

Rhodesia is to have its first railway tunnel. Bored through the hills near Wankie, it will be nearly 900 feet long.

### HELICOPTER SERVICE

Three helicopter airlines now serve New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago with regular flights. The New York line carries passengers and the others handle cargo.

Monkeys at Havana Zoo, Cuba, are to have their finger prints taken for scientific study.

Penicillin is being fed to young fish in Yorkshire to speed their growth.

Last year Britain's tourist trade earned the record sum of £126,000,000.

### REMEMBERING HANS ANDERSEN

Sir Winston Churchill is to broadcast to the people of Denmark on Friday to mark the 149th anniversary of the birth of Hans Christian Andersen.

## Have more Fun!

Enjoy Wrigley's delicious flavours—  
they last and last.

Chewing makes everything more fun  
Keeps you feeling fresh and happy.

CLIP ME OUT!

### WRIGLEY GAME No. 3

"ICE HOCKEY"

You play in pairs. The first pair each have a matchstick and a packet of Wrigley's chewing gum. They face each other at one end of a table on opposite sides. They hold their matchsticks between their teeth and use them to push their packets to the far end of the table. The first to get his packet there wins. Only matchsticks may be used to push packets. Winners of each pair play one another and the final champion wins the chewing gum.



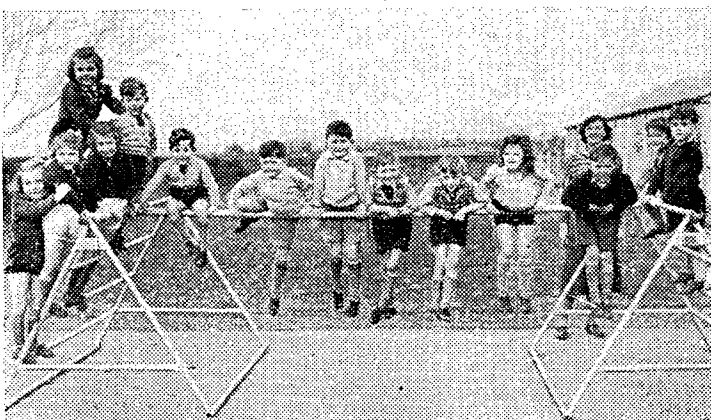
Three Delicious Flavours

Chew

# WRIGLEY'S



(EP1564)



### Seven times two

Attending the Infants School of Egham Hythe Primary School, Surrey, are seven sets of twins. Here we see them having fun on the bars in the school playground.



The Children's Newspaper, April 3, 1954

## RECORDING THE LIZARD'S BARK

Three naturalists recently spent their holidays off the north-east coast of New Zealand making a gramophone record of the bark of the tuatera lizard.

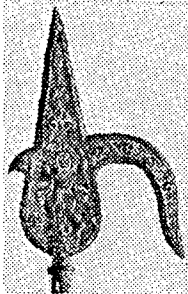
To find a tuatera they had to visit the rocky islands called The Aldermen. (Captain Cook gave them this name because they were some distance from a larger island which he had called Mayor Island.)

These uninhabited islands are the last stronghold of the tuatera, a two-foot lizard which scientists consider to be a link with the creatures of prehistoric times.

The naturalists found that the bark of this lizard is "deep, throaty, almost guttural." Perhaps its bark is worse than its bite, for the tuatera, like other lizards, feeds on flies and keeps out of sight of human beings. It often shares the burrows made by seabirds in the cliff of its lonely isles.

## Medieval weapon

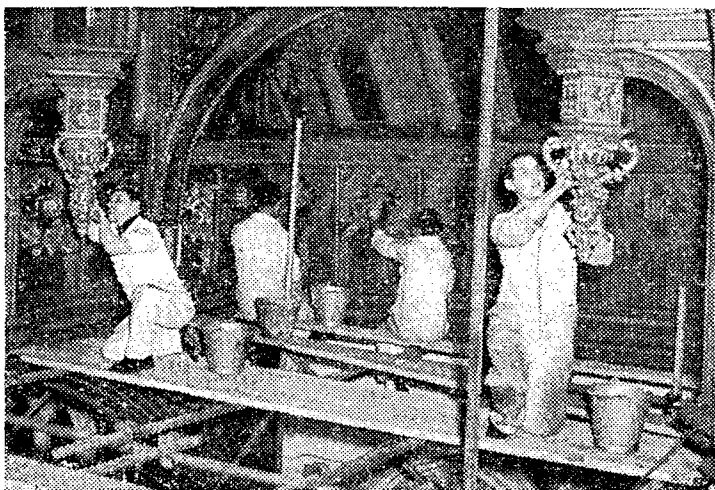
The head of a 500-year-old halberd which has been found on Selsey beach, Sussex. It is of iron, well-preserved, inlaid with bronze figures and flowers.



## VETERAN CARS SENT TO COVENTRY

Cars, bicycles, and aeroplanes of 50 years ago, formerly in the Nash Collection at Brooklands, Surrey, have had to be sold, and Coventry Corporation have bought a number of the exhibits for their proposed new Industrial Museum. For seven of these ancient cars and 12 vintage bicycles the sum of £2225 was given.

The cars comprise an 1895 Benz of 1½ h.p.; an 1897 Daimler wagonette; an 1898 Charles D. Crowden 5 h.p. single-cylinder car; a 1910 Humber; 1912 Morris; 1913 Swift; and 1921 Rover. The bicycles include a Salvo tricycle of 1881 made by the Coventry cycle pioneer, Starley; and a six-seater cycle which could be added to by the addition of two-seater units.



## Cleaning a great roof

Henry VIII's Great Hall at Hampton Court, the palace built by Cardinal Wolsey, has been closed for cleaning and re-decoration. Here we see men at work in the roof.

## COWS OUT OF PLACE

It was washing day for Mrs. W. Goudge of St. Dennis (Cornwall). She went into the garden to see if four large dusters, six handkerchiefs, two small sheets, two tea-towels, a dress and an apron were dry.

All had disappeared except one of the dusters and that was just vanishing down the throat of a cow which had broken into the garden. However, this seems to have made no difference to the cow's milk yield, for it was up to average that evening!

A cow fell through the ceiling of a greengrocer's shop at Inverness recently, squeezed out through the door, and ran till captured in a garden nearly half a mile away.

It had escaped from a market and climbed two flights of stairs.

## QUEENSLAND PIONEER

The people of Queensland are proud of a Cumberland pioneer who opened up and developed vast grazing lands, founded cattle stations which became towns, and discovered rich copper deposits.

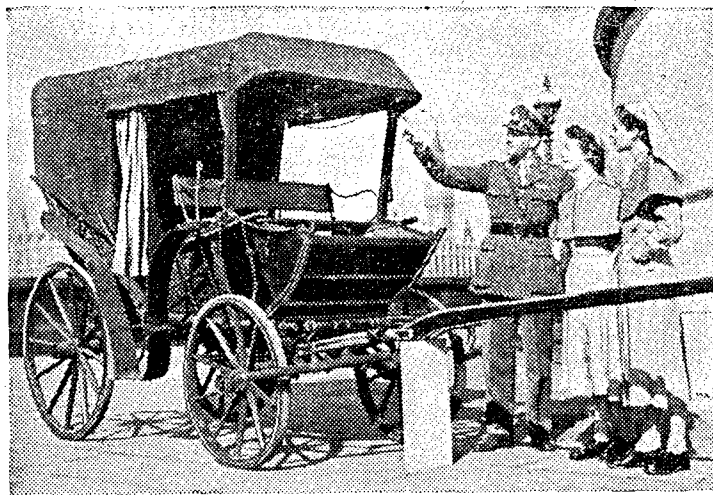
His name was Ernest Henry. He was born at Harrington, near Workington, in 1837, and died near Sydney 35 years ago.

The recently-constructed Ernest Henry Memorial Bridge now spans the Flinders River at Hughenden, a place he named after his mother's house in Cumberland. It makes a great monument in concrete and steel to a man they regard as among the greatest of early Queenslanders.

## KEEN EYES WANTED

Ploughmen and quarrymen are to be asked to help archaeologists by looking for traces of the foundations of medieval buildings. Six new committees have been formed by the Council for British Archaeology to search for evidence of the everyday life of our forefathers.

Historians of the past, often wrote of the lives of great men, but ignored the ordinary man's daily existence. But that, too, is a vastly important part of history and the new committees will seek knowledge of how our forebears worked and built, how they cooked, what they ate and wore, and so on.



## Florence Nightingale's carriage

This year marks the centenary of Florence Nightingale's great work during the Crimean War, and in this picture we see the carriage she used at the time. Captain Boon of the Royal Army Service Corps and two members of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps are inspecting the carriage prior to its overhaul for use in a forthcoming Tattoo.

## UMBRELLAS FOR THE HEIGHTS

A member of Sir Edmund Hillary's new Himalayan team has bought a twelve-and-sixpenny second-hand umbrella, thus following the leader's example, for Sir Edmund himself carried an old umbrella up Everest.

This other brolly-carrying mountaineer is 28-year-old Brian Wilkins, an industrial chemist from Dunedin. With three other New Zealand climbers he left for Bombay recently to join Sir Edmund's party who are to tackle unclimbed Himalayan peaks.

The brolly is presumably for use, for, said one of them, "We're not superstitious; we haven't even got a rabbit's foot for luck!"

Two Englishmen are in the N.Z. team of ten: Dr. Michael Ball, and Dr. Charles Evans, who was Sir John Hunt's deputy on the triumphant Everest expedition.

## CAVES UNDER THE CASTLE

The caves under Nottingham Castle are to be opened to the public, and up to £2000 is to be spent on the necessary work of cleaning and preparing them.

The caves have a long history. The castle rock was inhabited 3500 years ago, and recently traces of occupation of one of the caves by Cromwell's soldiers was found. And, of course, there is all the thrill of Robin Hood's association with Nottingham Castle.

## TURKEY TROT

Latest fashion among women in Hungary is sandals made of skin from the feet of turkeys and geese. Experiments have proved this new leather to be hard-wearing, and the Hungarian shoe manufacturers claim that goose-foot leather is like lizard while turkey-foot leather resembles crocodile skin.

## TAGGING BATS

Thousands of bats hibernating in deep caverns in the Mendip Hills are being tagged while asleep by members of the Axbridge (Somerset) Caving Club. The tags, which are attached to one wing, are made of aluminium.

## THE WORLD HAS MORE SHIPS

The 1954 appendix to Lloyd's Register of Shipping shows that the total tonnage of the world's ships has increased during the past year by 3,171,000 tons and now totals 93,352,000 tons.

Oil tanker tonnage has grown by nearly two million tons, and is still increasing at a large rate, for 24 per cent of all steam and motor-driven vessels in the world are now oil tankers.

The percentage of motor ships varies considerably in different waters. In Norway it is 79 per cent and in Sweden 76 per cent. In both Greece and the United States the figures are low, 3.9 and 4.4 respectively. Britain's total tonnage includes about 40 per cent of motor ships.

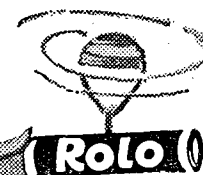
The principal oil-tanker fleets of the world at the end of last year are (figures in thousand-tons gross): Great Britain and Northern Ireland 4656; United States 4461; Norway 3362; Panama 2151; Liberia 1029; France 896; Italy 834.

## DUTCH EGGS

Less than 50 years ago Holland was regularly importing more eggs than she exported. Now, however, Holland is the world's largest exporter of eggs, figures just issued for last year showing that nearly 1700 million were despatched to other countries. Western Germany was the biggest customer, taking 1328 million of them.



Tops in popularity



all the gang loves

Mackintosh's



Rich creamy toffee in milk chocolate cups

JOHN MACKINTOSH & SONS LIMITED, HALIFAX



## CAMERA CORNER

A new series of articles in which an expert, Wallace S. Sharps, tells young photographers how to get better results and more enjoyment from a favourite hobby.

### 1. Origins of Photography

THE White Rabbit put on his spectacles.

"Where shall I begin, please, Your Majesty?" he asked. "Begin at the beginning," the King said gravely, "and go on till you come to the end; then stop."

I shall take this good advice by telling you how Photography came to be.

Many people believe that photography originated in Ancient Egypt, but this is not at all certain. However, we do know that there was a device in the Middle Ages called the "camera obscura," and this acted on the same basic idea as a modern camera.

### LEONARDO'S DESCRIPTION

The famous 15th century painter and inventor, Leonardo da Vinci, described it as follows:

"When the images of illuminated objects enter a very dark room through a very small hole and fall on a piece of white paper at some distance from the hole, one sees on the paper all the objects in their own forms and colours. They will be smaller in size and will appear upside down and a suitable hole can be made in a very thin plate of iron."

In 1563 a 16-year-old Naples boy, John Baptist della Porta, wrote a book called *Magica Naturalis*. This described how to use a glass lens in the hole of the camera obscura, so that the projected picture was made sharper

and brighter. He later made transparent drawings and by putting them outside the camera obscura, he used the sunshine to project them onto the darkened wall inside. This was the beginning of the cinema.

In 1777 the great chemist Scheele discovered that silver chloride blackened in sunlight. This also happened with silver bromide and silver iodide but, as it did not seem to be useful, this information was almost forgotten. Yet it is because of this action of silver compounds that photography exists.

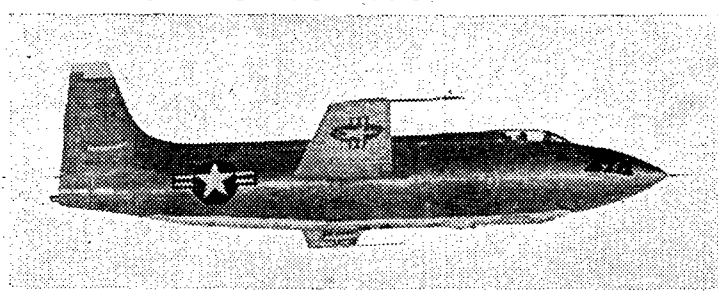
By 1839 a Frenchman named Daguerre had perfected a process for making photographs on copper plates and these "Daguerreotypes" became very popular. If you see one, think of the sitter having to keep still for an exposure of half an hour or more. No wonder that special chairs with headrests were used!

### ENGLISH INVENTION

Another photographic process was that invented by an English country gentleman, Fox Talbot. In 1835, with an early form of camera, he had taken a picture of his home at Lacock Abbey, and was the first man to make a permanent paper print from a negative. This is, of course, the system that is used today and so Talbot is usually called the founder of modern photography.

Since his day it has given us picture-filled magazines and books, the cinema, and the world's most popular hobby.

## 27-MILES-A-MINUTE PLANE



By our Flying Correspondent

High over Muroc Dry Lake, California, one day last December, a small torpedo-shaped research plane detached itself from the bomb-bay of a converted Superfortress bomber. In the plane's tiny cockpit a young test-pilot, Captain Charles E. Yeager, held firmly on to the control column and fired consecutively three of the four rockets which are housed in the tail.

Suddenly the Bell X-1A tilted its nose and raced up to 45,000 feet. At this height Yeager fired his fourth rocket; shock waves streamed back from the X-1A like the wake of a ship, and the tiny silver machine soared off into the midnight blue of the freezing stratosphere.

When he levelled off at 70,000 feet he was travelling at 1650 m.p.h., or  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times the speed of sound at that altitude. Yeager, who in 1947 became the first human to fly faster than sound,

thus regained his title of the world's fastest man.

Fantastic though his speed may seem, this 30-year-old test pilot is confident that even this record will be beaten when the new Bell X-2 takes the air in a few weeks' time. If this swept-wing stainless steel successor to the X-1A does manage to fly even higher and faster, Yeager is almost certain to be at the controls.

Power for the X-1A is provided by a Reaction Motors rocket-engine which develops 6000-lbs. thrust. The engine actually consists of four separate 1500-lbs. thrust rockets which can be fired singly or all together. The engines burn an alcohol-water mixture and use liquid oxygen as an oxydizer. Flight endurance of the machine is approximately 4.2 minutes, after which the pilot must steeply glide the plane into land—at a speed approaching 200 m.p.h.

Span is 28 feet; length 35 feet.

## It happened this week

### ALASKA SOLD

MARCH 30, 1867. NEW YORK. —Russia has sold Alaska to the United States for 7,200,000 dollars.

That is the main provision of the treaty signed between the two nations today after eight years of negotiation.

This wild and still little-known territory on America's north-west coast was discovered in 1741 by a Russian expedition under the command of Bering—the name later given to the adjoining straits.

Wild animals found there include the elk, deer, bear, wolf, beaver, ermine, and marten.

### "PERFORATOR" ARCHER DIES

APRIL 2, 1863. PAU, FRANCE. —In this quiet little town today died the inventor of a device with which we are today so familiar that we hardly notice it.

He was Mr. Henry Archer, an Irishman, who persuaded the British Post Office to adopt his idea of perforating the paper for easy separation of postage stamps.

He first patented the idea on November 23, 1848, but not until 1854 did the authorities decide to use it.

He refused the first offer of £500, and in June 1853 sold his patent rights to the British Treasury for £4000.

### GARIBALDI ARRIVES

APRIL 3, 1864. LONDON.—Giuseppe Garibaldi, Italian patriot and leader of the Red Shirts of the Risorgimento, was greeted with scenes of overwhelming enthusiasm when he arrived in London today.

The son of a fisherman, he has become one of the greatest figures in the history of his nation. In his fight for a free and united Italy he defeated the armies of France, Austria, Spain, and Naples, and at last freed Italy from the yoke of Austria.

His "March on Rome" two years ago was one of the decisive events in European history and established his undying fame.

Among the visits he is to pay while in this country is one to Lord Tennyson, the Poet Laureate, at his home, Faringford House, in the Isle of Wight.

### DEATH OF CHARLOTTE BRONTË

MARCH 31, 1855. HAWORTH. Charlotte Brontë, one of the country's greatest women novelists, died today at Haworth Parsonage. She was 38.

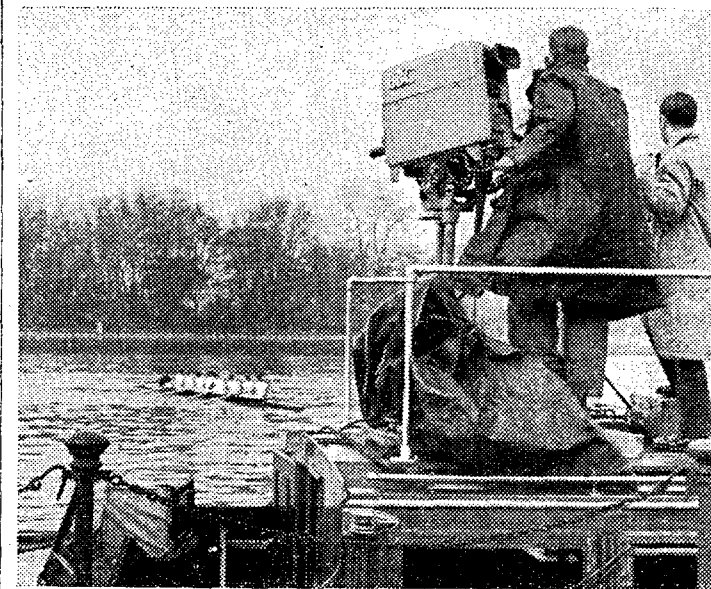
Miss Brontë, who married Mr. A. B. Nicholls, her father's curate, less than a year ago, almost had her literary career halted before it had started. In 1836 she sent some of her poems to Robert Southey, who in a kindly letter pointed out the objections to a literary career.

Ten years later she and her two sisters, Emily and Ann, published a book of poems, "by Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell."

Charlotte Brontë's great novel, *Jane Eyre*, will surely secure for her an abiding place in literature.

ON THE AIR—by Ernest Thomson, our Radio and TV Correspondent

## EYES AND EARS ON THE BOAT RACE



BOAT RACE TV this year includes a trip along the Thames, on April 2, the day before the race, to show young viewers the course through the eyes of two TV cameras on the launch Everest.

For the race itself the BBC hopes to give better TV pictures than ever before. As well as the two launch cameras following the crews, one will be posted near the start at Putney and another in a new position on the Surrey side opposite the finishing post at Mortlake. Producer Keith Rogers believes this will give better close-ups of the finish than the old camera position on Chiswick Bridge.

Before the start, commentator

Richard Dimbleby at Putney will discuss prospects with T. B. Langton, an ex-Cambridge Blue. When the boats are off, the launch commentary will come from Michael Henderson, expertly advised by Richard Burnell, 1948 Olympic Games Gold Medallist. A tele-recording will be broadcast at night.

Light Programme listeners will hear a commentary from John Snagge following the crews in another launch. In case the finishing stages are difficult to see after Barnes Bridge, Raymond Baxter will act as stand-by commentator on Chiswick Bridge, which gives a clear view of the last few hundred yards of the course.

### In Town on T V

IN Town Tonight is the first sound radio programme to team up permanently with TV. From Saturday, to the opening strains of Eric Coates's Knightsbridge March, the programme will be simultaneously broadcast on sound and TV from Lime Grove.

The familiar sounds of a Comet aircraft, express train, and Trans-Atlantic liner will also be heard, and for viewers they will come to life on film.

An unexpected novelty will be the introduction of each In Town Tonight by the Home Service announcer on duty, who will have to wear TV make-up to face the cameras. John Ellison remains as regular interviewer.

Peter Duncan, editor of the programme, insists that TV will not change the free-and-easy atmosphere in the studio. Men being interviewed may have open-necked shirts. Women and girls may wear anything from tennis gear to an evening gown.

### Express thrills

FRICH VON STROHEIM, famous screen villain, will be seen in the new series of 30-minute film thrillers, *Orient Express*, starting in TV on Saturday evening. Each episode, completely self-contained, features an adventure on a Trans-continental train. Many of the scenes were shot in Berlin, Rome, and Paris.

### As in a theatre

DOES the sound of a studio audience help you to enjoy a radio programme? Opinions differ, but the BBC believes that for certain types of entertainment it can be a real help both to artists and listeners.

Beginning at Easter, a number of musical comedies will be broadcast from the Playhouse studio in the presence of large audiences. There will be no special costumes or scenery, but in every other respect the shows will be like an ordinary theatre production.

### George Cross Island

IN three weeks' time Richard Dimbleby will fly to Malta to report for sound radio the arrival of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh near the end of their Commonwealth tour.

Producer Stephen McCormack, who presents *About Britain*, tells me that he and his script-writers will join Dimbleby out there to prepare a TV feature called *The George Cross Island*, which viewers will see on Empire Day, May 24.

"We shall try for intimate glimpses of Malta's people at work and play," said McCormack. "Later we hope to arrange similar TV tours of cities and towns in Europe."

Nearer home, *About Britain* will visit Stratford-on-Avon on April 23, Shakespeare's birthday.



## On the Royal Route

# THE PALM-CLAD COCOS ISLANDS

*The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are now on the long homeward stretch of their tour. They are aboard the Gothic, crossing the Indian Ocean on the 3120-mile voyage from Western Australia to Ceylon; and on April 5 they will break their journey with a call at a little-known part of the world, the Cocos Islands.*

THIS is a group of some 27 palm-clad coral islets, none more than five miles long, set round a shallow lagoon about halfway between Australia and Ceylon. Together they form what is called an atoll, that is, a roughly horse-shoe-shaped coral reef.

In the centre is a shallow lagoon and the circumference is broken up by the sea into a number of islets. In other words, the reef is partly submerged, the dry parts forming little islands on which coconut palms and other vegetation grows.

The Cocos Islands are now under Australian administration, but their thousand or so Malay natives live like a family under the kindly supervision of Mr. Clunies-Ross, whose family have owned the atoll and been its benevolent landlords since 1827.

The islands have a strange history. Sometimes called the Keeling Islands—after Captain William Keeling, who discovered them in 1609—they were, presumably, uninhabited then, and remained so until 1823. Then a rather disreputable English adventurer named Alexander Hare, looking for a home far from civilisation and criticism, went there from Borneo with numerous wives and slaves.

In 1827 a different kind of adventurer arrived with his wife and family. This was John Clunies-Ross, a religious Scot of high ideals, who wanted to create a happy community in these pleasant islands by bringing people from Java who would earn their living by trading in copra.

If John Clunies-Ross was Prospero, Alexander Hare was a

sort of Stephano. The two had been partners in Borneo, but their ways of life were so different that they were bound to disagree. Hare lived on Direction Island, so John settled with his Javanese natives on Home Island. The contrast between the two settlements must have been remarkable.

But the Ross neighbourhood appealed to Hare's subjects more than their own, and they kept running away to Home Island.

John's little kingdom flourished under his wise rule. No alcohol was allowed, no policemen or tax collectors were necessary; his subjects seldom suffered from infectious diseases, not even from colds, and they have continued in that healthy condition to the present day.

### DARWIN'S CALL

In 1856 the Cocos Islands became a British Protectorate, but the Clunies-Ross family remained, and their possession of them for ever was confirmed by the British Government in 1886.

An important event in Cocos history was the visit of Charles Darwin in the Beagle. He based his conclusions on the formation of coral reefs on what he saw there. The famous scientist sailed away to startle thinking people with his theory of evolution, but the Cocos Islanders, far from the fretful world, continued their placid, uneventful existence.

Even today, one imagines, these tiny pinpoints on the map are the very place for a quiet, contemplative life. The climate is delightful, never very hot, and certainly never cold. Everywhere coconut palms murmur in the ocean breezes, and the only Calibans are giant coconut crabs, ugly creatures that live in burrows and eat fallen coconuts.

### INTO THE LIMELIGHT

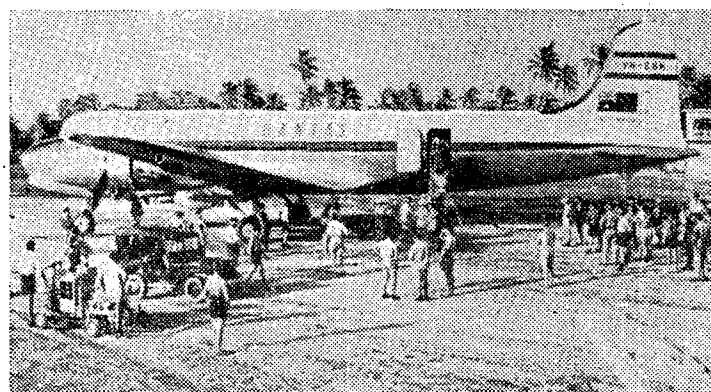
It was not until the outbreak of the First World War in 1914 that the Cocos Islands first came into the limelight of world affairs, and then it was a highly dramatic appearance.

The disguised German cruiser Emden, which had been sinking Allied shipping, approached the Cocos and sent a party ashore to wreck the cable station but was caught and sunk by the Australian cruiser, Sydney.

With the Second World War the old isolation of the Cocos Islands came to an end. Thousands of our men were stationed there, a Japan-



The settlement and landing stage on Home Island



Men of the R.A.A.F. gather round to collect letters from the mail plane

ese cruiser shelled the cable station, and an airstrip was made for the R.A.F.

Then, in 1951, the Australians arrived. Some 500 of them came ashore with 4000 tons of equipment to build an air base. They set to work to replace the old R.A.F. strip with a new one 10,000 feet long and 150 feet wide. Bulldozers and other machines pushed down palm trees and shifted 102,000 tons of earth to make the level runways on which 75,000 tons of crushed coral was then laid down.

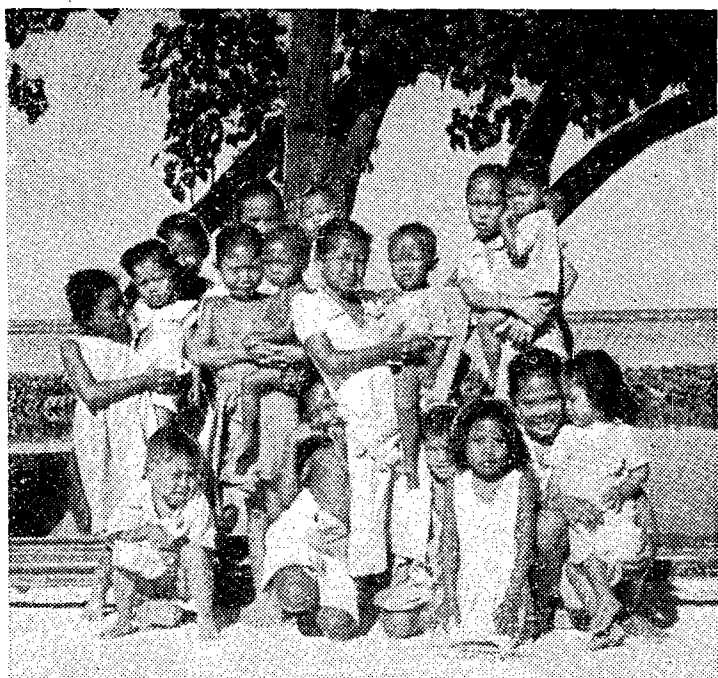
Within a year the work was completed and in September 1952 the first air liner landed. It was a Constellation of the great Australian airline, Qantas, and it opened the route from Perth, via Cocos and Mauritius to Johannesburg.

In October last year the new base was used by competitors in the London to New Zealand air race, and the Qantas ground staff

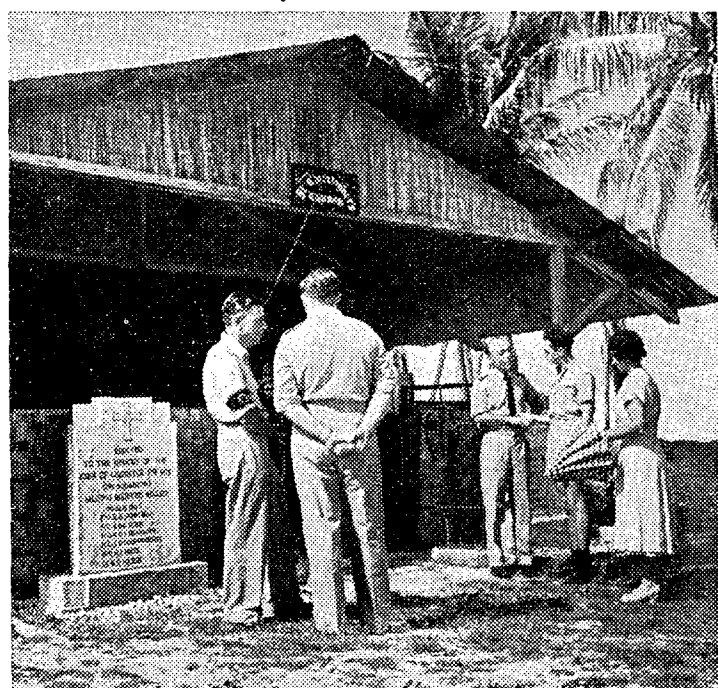
were on their toes to refuel the planes at top speed. Their record was ten minutes to clear a Canberra.

Times have certainly changed on what were once remote and lonely isles. But Mr. and Mrs. Clunies-Ross, who live in a mansion surrounded by trees, maintain the fine traditions of this little community's founder, and they are still looked on by the islanders as the "King and Queen of Cocos," though they now share this small realm with a number of Australians. These include men of the Qantas line, the Shell Company, the R.A.A.F., and members of the department of Civil Aviation.

And now comes a mightier Queen to make another historic occasion for the Cocos people, a Queen whose dominions make a girdle round the world. But in that girdle this tiny ocean homeland has now become an important link.



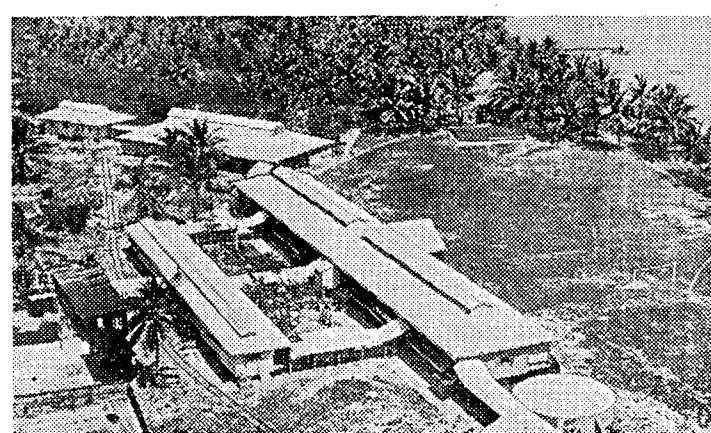
Some of the Malayan children who live on the islands



The church built during the war by men of the R.A.F.



A Qantas plane coming in to land



The Cable and Wireless Station on Direction Island



# Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House  
Whitefriars · London · EC4  
APRIL 3 ..... 1954

## FEWER BARRIERS TO KNOWLEDGE

BRITAIN is continuing her century-old policy of abolishing "taxes on knowledge" by doing away with import duties on books, newspapers, works of art, music scores, and other educational material.

This is in accordance with a Unesco Agreement which has been signed by 30 other nations.

It was in 1853 that the onerous duty on British newspaper advertisements was repealed. The stamp tax on the circulation of newspapers was repealed in 1855, and in 1861 Richard Cobden negotiated a commercial treaty with France providing, among other things, for free trade in books.

Among those who led the campaign for the free flow of ideas were Charles Dickens, Disraeli, Gladstone, and Richard Cobden.

How they would have rejoiced in this latest breaking down of barriers to knowledge!

## FOOD FOR ALL

LET There Be Bread is the motto of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, whose new stamp is now on sale in Britain.

The stamp is symbolic of the world's most urgent need—more food. There are more mouths to feed than ever before in all countries. It is estimated that 40 new lives come into the world every minute, and that lives are lasting longer than at any time in human history.

F.A.O. is a great international enterprise now in its tenth year. May it long continue its fine work. Let There Be Bread in plenty and for all mankind.



## Under the Editor's Table

PETER PUCK  
WANTS TO  
KNOW

If icecream  
sells like hot  
cakes

Fire broke out in a London police station. It was soon arrested.

The average Englishman travels one quarter as much as the average American. Hasn't so far to go.

# The Editor's Table

## CHILDREN THEIR CAREER

IN spite of all the pessimists may say, mankind is making progress.

Young women in countries as far apart as India and Brazil are now studying to become child welfare workers among their own people.

These dedicated young women are the main hope of rural areas where, largely through lack of trained nurses, disease has always taken an appalling toll of young life.

For many young students this means making a break with national customs and habits. For all of them it means years of hard work.

There are still not enough nurses, but the number is growing. During 1953 the number of girls enrolling for training was 50 per cent greater than in the previous year.

## Think on These Things

THE last 20 verses of Chapter 22 of the Second Book of Samuel reveal the secret of a great king who loyally served his people.

King David became ruler of a number of separate tribes of Israel, and his courage and leadership united them and made them a powerful nation.

But whatever David did, he remembered that God was his "strength and power" and acknowledged His guidance.

The advice he gave to Solomon his son: "Be strong, therefore, and show thyself; and keep the charge of the Lord thy God to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes and His commandments" was an expression of his own experience.

David was called a man after God's own heart, because he always remembered that he lived in His presence. F. P.

## LOOKING BACK

SING me a song of a lad that is gone,  
Say, could that lad be I?  
Merry of soul he sailed on a day  
Over the sea to Skye.

Billows and breeze, islands and seas,  
Mountains of rain and sun,  
All that was good, all that was fair,  
All that was me is gone.

Robert Louis Stevenson

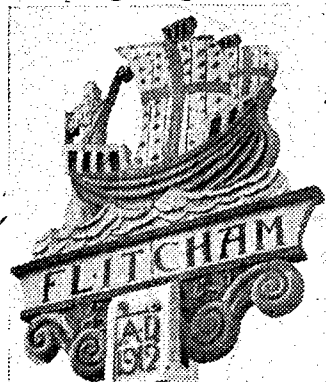
**The would-be MP**  
"HE hopes to be in Parliament but want of means stands in the way."

That sentence appears in a letter which was among the papers and relics displayed at an Oxford reception held to mark the centenary of Lord Milner.

It was written to Lord Milner in 1899 by the famous statesman Joseph Chamberlain, and its purpose was to introduce a young man of great promise—none other than Winston Churchill, then 24 years old!

Formidable obstacles such as want of means are invariably surmounted when resolution joins hands with ambition. That young man who hoped to be in Parliament was destined to become one of the greatest statesmen of all time.

## Village signs—17



Flitcham, a village on the Royal Sandringham Estate in Norfolk, has this striking sign erected in 1912 by George V. It depicts St. Felix, a Christian missionary from Burgundy, reaching this part of East Anglia more than 1300 years ago.

## Thirty Years Ago

From the Children's Newspaper, April 5, 1924

SIR ARTHUR SHIPLEY, Master of Christ's College, Cambridge, has lately been examining anew the jumping powers of fleas, and comparing their jumping muscles with those of men.

He had nine fleas carefully weighed in a chemical balance, and found that the average flea weighed 38-hundredths of a milligramme. The average weight of a man he put down at about 70 kilogrammes, which seems to us rather high, for it is over eleven stone.

The record jump of a flea is, on the other hand, rather less than expected. It is only 13 inches long and less than 8 inches high. But if a man, when his weight is compared with that of a flea, had a similar jumping power, he could leap 21,900 miles in the air, and horizontally could jump 36,800 miles, or one and a half times round the world.

## JUST AN IDEA

As Lord Chesterfield wrote: Wear your learning, like your watch, in a private pocket; and do not merely pull it out and strike it merely to show that you have one.

## A BIRTHDAY FOR STRATFORD

SHAKESPEARE'S Stratford-on-Avon has a flourishing young rival in the prosperous market town of Stratford in New Zealand, about 50 miles north-west of Wellington.

Citizens of "Stratford Down Under" recently celebrated the town's 75th anniversary and recalled its origins.

It stands on land that was formerly dense forest and the scene of skirmishes between hostile Maoris and British soldiers and settlers.

Then came peace, and with it the rise of the town bearing the name of the Bard's birthplace, with streets happily labelled Orlando, Hamlet, Portia, Juliet, Olivia, Rosalind, and Cordelia.

We trust that in due season young Stratford will honour Shakespeare still further, and establish its own Memorial Theatre.

## 20th-century Old Masters

A YOUNG Swiss plane-spotter caused amusement by his powers of observation at Zürich recently.

Taken by his father to see an exhibition of 17th-century Dutch art, he seemed very puzzled by the names under the pictures—those of such masters as Frans Hals, Pieter de Hoogh, Jan Vermeer, and so on. Then a thought came to him.

"Daddy," he exclaimed suddenly, "these paintings are all named after K.L.M. airliners!"

## YOUNG APRIL

It's good to be alive and shout  
Heigho for Spring, for  
glancing shower;  
To walk the whistling woods  
about.  
To note and name each nodding  
flower.

It's good to hear the raindrops  
fall,  
To know they reach earth's  
fibrous throats,  
To stand and listen to the call  
Of sweet young April's joyous  
notes.

W. N. S.

The Children's Newspaper, April 3, 1954

## THEY SAY . . .

WE cannot have the standards of a stable, decent, and prosperous community unless each one of us, the highest and most humble, helps to make it so.

Sir Hartley Shawcross, Q.C.

BETTER use would be made of the public library services if children in schools were trained to acquire the "library habit."

Perth and Kinross County Librarian

TELEVISION will not keep people away from serious music. It will make them go to it.

Sir Malcolm Sargent

IT costs more to send a sheep carcass from the north of Scotland to London by British Railways than from New Zealand to Britain in a refrigerator ship.

Sir David Robertson, M.P.

SPEAKING voices should be intelligible, agreeable, and expressive of the individual personality. Dialect is not unattractive, as long as it is understandable from Land's End to John o' Groats.

Miss M. C. O. Cobby, Inspector of Drama, L.C.C. Education Department

## Out and About

ONE of the interesting amphibians is the newt. Among the British kinds the most striking in his Spring colouring is the large crested newt, with black spots on the dark, greenish-brown upper parts, white speckling along the sides, and a bright orange-yellow belly.

Newts generally lay their eggs a few weeks later than the frogs and toads.

In taking a walk just now near a pond it is worth while looking for signs of any of the amphibians, whose strange life-cycle is a reminder of how animals evolved from the condition of the water-dwelling fishes.

Unlike the masses and strings of eggs deposited by frogs and toads, the eggs of most newts are laid singly, or in twos and threes.

The lucky observer will see the female deposit these on the leaf of a water plant, the edges of the leaf then being folded over the eggs and stuck together with a gummy excretion from the newt.

C. D. D.



## OUR HOMELAND

The old-world village of Bredon, Worcestershire



# REPORT ON WILD LIFE

By the CN Naturalist

Do you know the wryneck, the little grey-brown bird with a long tongue which is nicknamed the Cuckoo's Leader because it arrives just before the cuckoo?

Many bird-watchers are looking out for this woodland summer visitor with its shrill *pee-pee-pee* cry, because under the organisation of Dr. J. F. Monk, of Reading, a census is being made of the number of wrynecks in Britain in 1954.

Wrynecks, once common summer nesters in English and Welsh woodlands, are declining in numbers. Only about 50 are reported annually by British naturalists. They are known to nest round Purley, Leatherhead, Tadworth, and Banstead, in Surrey, in parts of Hertfordshire and Kent, and near Ipswich, in Suffolk.

THE Society for the Promotion of Nature Reserves have issued an interesting report. One of their sanctuaries, Mickfield Meadow near Debenham, in Suffolk, is to be preserved purely for its wild snakeshead fritillaries, including white rarities. There are now few other fields left in East Anglia where this speckled flower flourishes, rabbits and people gathering wild flowers being the chief sources of trouble.

Another reserve kept specially for a rare flower is Badgeworth Marsh in the Cotswolds, near Gloucester, where the snakelike buttercup grows. On one of their other reserves, Dancer's End, near Tring, you may find the rare blue meadow sage. Woodwalton Fen, recently declared by the Nature Conservancy as a national nature reserve in Huntingdonshire, seems to favour the Deptford pink flower.

In order to make sure that the marsh does not dry out, a pump has been installed to pump water into it.

ON and after April 5 a new order comes into force as a result of international regulations to save sea fish from being caught too small and too young. For the two years until April 5, 1956, all fishing boats north of latitude 48 degrees north, and east of longitude 42 degrees west, must use nets with a mesh not less than 75 millimetres broad.

After April 1956 the mesh size will be increased to 80 millimetres. Thus more small and medium-sized fish will be able to swim through the new nets without getting caught and so will live to breed and produce young ones. In this way, over-fishing and destruction of the breeding stocks will be avoided.

It is very necessary that we preserve our fisheries, because they are among the most important natural sources of protein food.

BIRD-WATCHING in the Royal Navy is now a popular pastime, and is also one officially encouraged by the authorities.

Admiral Sir Henry Woodward, who shares this interest, recently reported to ornithologists an account of how he watched a large flock of rooks, on migration 40 miles off the Norfolk Coast,

settle upon the stays and aerials of his battleship.

The rooks remained aboard the battleship from the afternoon until four o'clock the next morning, when the battleship ran into foggy weather off Sussex and had to sound its siren, whereupon the frightened rooks left.

CHESHIRE bird-lovers are delighted that a shore-lark, a rare visitor to the west coast of Britain, has spent three months wintering on exactly the same corner of the Dee estuary shore.

Shore-larks are sometimes called horned-larks from their black, horn-like ear-lappets. They have a small amount of yellow on the face and haunt bleak open country away from habitations and cultivation.

These birds are regular winter visitors in small numbers to the East Coast counties of Suffolk, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and Northumberland, where they usually arrive with the snow-buntings in October and depart early in April for their Siberian nesting places.

A FLOCK of over a thousand white-fronted geese which have spent the winter feeding in the Severn Valley near Chirbury, on the Shropshire-Montgomeryshire border, and flying daily to roost at Llyn Hir, in mid-Wales, have also migrated back to Siberia.

Sometimes they shared their roost with some Greenland white-fronted geese, although the chief winter haunt of the Greenlanders was Tregaron Bog in Cardiganshire. The Greenland wild geese are believed to make their long flight home in Spring, via Iceland.

E. H.

The CN Film Critic goes . . .

## 20 FATHOMS UNDER THE SEA

Now I know what it is really like under the sea. I have come face to face with the giant octopus. A giant ray has flicked past my ears. I have seen the killer shark swish round and swim towards me.

I have trodden the sea bed gathering sponges, 20 fathoms below the surface. I know the strange shapes and colours of that awe-inspiring world known only to fish—and to the deep sea divers who go hunting the simple domestic sponge.

All this I have seen, with my own eyes, through the eyes of the Aquaflex, an underwater camera equipped with CinemaScope lenses. This camera marvel took all the underwater shots for a new film called *Beneath The Twelve Mile Reef*.

### RIVAL DIVERS

This is a story of the sponge divers of Florida, the "Greeks" who normally fish off Tarpon Springs, Florida, and the "Conchs," the British settlers' descendants.

The Greeks go down deep wearing helmets and breathing apparatus, and obtain the best sponges found in the dangerous Twelve Mile Reef. The Conchs work the waters off Key West, where the sponges are easier to find and no diving helmets are necessary.

The people concerned in *Beneath The Twelve Mile Reef* are a Greek sponge-diving family and a Conch one, the Petrakis and the Rhys. Mike Petrakis, his son Tony, and brother-in-law Socrates (known as Soak) are having a lean time in their own waters, so Mike steers for the forbidden Conch territory. With a full load on board his



Mike Petrakis (Gilbert Roland) is dressed for diving by his son Tony (Robert Wagner) and his brother-in-law Socrates (J. Carroll)

party are set upon by members of the Rhys family, who threaten to cut Mike's lifeline while he is below.

So the Greeks hand over their sponges and make for Key West. There they "sort out" the Rhys family. There is one fight between them, but young Tony Petrakis meets Gwyneth Rhys—and, of course, another complication adds to the tense situation.

### DANGEROUS WATERS

Refusing to go home empty-handed, Papa Mike Petrakis makes for the dangerous Twelve Mile Reef where sponge fishing is profitable but full of incredible underwater hazards. And Papa Mike meets one—and perishes.

From there the conflict between the Petrakis and the Rhys takes a new turn. There is another fight, the Greek boat is burned, and Gwyneth Rhys runs away with young Tony to Tarpon Springs and his family. Tony takes over from his father and for his first diving trip goes out to deadly Twelve Mile Reef.

On his first dive he is attacked by a huge octopus, but worse awaits him—the Rhys family come

to claim back their daughter. An underwater fight between Tony and Arnold Dix, of the Rhys family, makes a breath-taking climax to a film full of thrills.

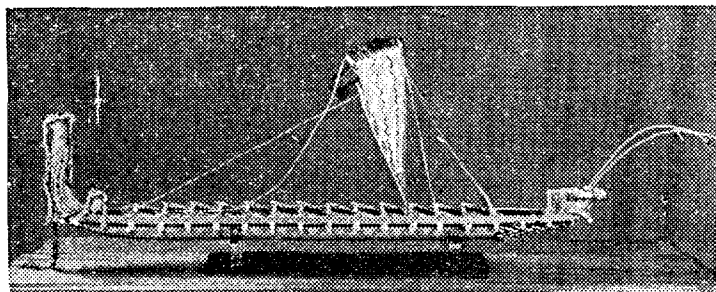
I will not reveal how it all ends, but I will say that I am sure you will like Robert Wagner as young Tony and Terry Moore—without any of the usual aids to glamour in films—as Gwyneth Rhys. The background—in Technicolor—is magnificent, and the details of the lives of the fishermen have a touch of the documentary about them. But the highlights are down below.

IF you have read Shakespeare's *Taming of The Shrew* at school then the film version of the musical comedy *Kiss Me Kate* will give you additional chuckles. For this is the light-hearted tale of a theatre company playing a musical version of *The Shrew*.

Brilliant dancing, wonderful tunes, good colour! The stars are Kathryn Grayson, Howard Keel, Ann Miller, and Keenan Wynn.

*Kiss Me Kate* is in "perfected 3-D," a striking improvement on many other 3-D films. But it is also to be shown as an ordinary film, not needing special spectacles.

## FOR THE ROYAL CHILDREN



Before many weeks have passed Prince Charles and Princess Anne will be playing with these delightful gifts, presented by the New Zealand Government as souvenirs of the Royal Visit.

The canoe, over three feet long, which Prince Charles will be able to sail, is a scale model of a boat formerly used by the Maoris. This was 80 feet long and seated up to 80 warriors, all wielding finely carved paddles.

The grotesque figurehead was to scare off evil spirits, and the antennae projecting beyond it had a religious significance. From the carved stern-piece feathered ornaments trailed in the water to make friendly contact with the Polynesian sea gods.

Princess Anne's Maori mother doll is 14 inches tall, and the baby about six inches. Both have an amazingly lifelike appearance.

## BUSINESSLIKE RED INDIANS

The Red Indians of Canada still have, and appreciate, their right of appeal to the Crown. This right was recently exercised by the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte, which leads into Lake Ontario, when an Indian Act provided for their tribal Council to consist of a chief and 12 councillors.

The Indians regarded a 13-man council as unwieldy, and although they did not have to lay their grievance directly before the Queen, they were able to secure a Royal Proclamation exempting them

from the section of the Act concerned, so that they were enabled to carry on their affairs with their usual council of the chief and six men.

A Canadian M.P. who knows this tribe well pays tribute to their social and business sense. He says among these Mohawks are many farmers and commercial fishermen and they no longer sit around a fire smoking the pipe of peace at their meetings but "get right down to business like any other Council in the area."

## PRESERVING SHIPS BY ELECTRICITY

A fleet of 150 merchant ships are lying in the Hudson River just outside New York, waiting to be repaired or to be broken up. To protect them from rust and corrosion, electricity is being used.

On the river bed under each ship is an electrode which is connected with electric points on the bottom

of the vessel. The current is carried to all parts of the ship which are likely to corrode, and protects the vessel even more effectively than it would be in dry-dock.

Power to operate the electrodes is conveyed from the shore by submarine cables.



## WILL GILPIN WAS A SCHOOLMASTER

We all know that "John Gilpin was a citizen" and famous for an historic ride. But April 5 marks the anniversary of another Gilpin who earned a reputation for much longer rides than Cowper's John ever made.

The Revd. William Gilpin, who died just 150 years ago, on April 5, 1804, was a parson-schoolmaster, with a talent for writing and painting, who produced a number of travel books which throw much interesting light on the England of—say—Garriek and Dr. Johnson.

For instance, when he visited Portsmouth and asked what the sailors stationed there ate for dinner, he was told "240 oxen every week." Around the harbour he tells us that he found giant salting houses where meat was prepared for the long voyages on the high seas.

Dover, with its narrow streets and ill-built houses, he found somewhat dull—except for the huge castle. But he had one good word for the town. All the shopkeepers could speak French.

### BANISHING THE BIRCH

Brighton, then a small fishing village, he judged a "disagreeable place with scarce an object of beauty in it."

On becoming a schoolmaster at Cheam, Surrey, he astonished his fellow teachers by introducing school gardening. He encouraged games like fives, and built a good school library. His pupils liked him, too, because in a time when most boys were tamed and taught by the frequent use of the birch and cane, Mr. Gilpin banished these weapons to a cupboard.

On becoming vicar of Boldre in the New Forest, where he lived for 27 years, Gilpin built a village school and devoted to it all the profits from his many books of travel about the countryside of Britain. Every summer holiday he rode highroads and byways of the country, exploring and sketching before returning home to write a book on his journey.

FOR MANY YEARS THE BOW OF A RACING CRAFT, MOUNTED ON A SHIELD, HUNG ON THE WALL OF AN INN AT HAMMERSMITH, ITS ORIGIN FORGOTTEN

ONE DAY IN 1934 CLOSE EXAMINATION REVEALED THE PAINTED WORD "HARVARD", AND INQUIRIES ESTABLISHED THAT IT WAS A RELIC OF A RACE WON BY OXFORD 65 YEARS EARLIER...

R.



...ON 1869 WHEN OXFORD HAD THEIR NINTH SUCCESSIVE VICTORY, THEY WERE CHALLENGED BY HARVARD, THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY. THIS, THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL BOAT RACE, TOOK PLACE ON THE THAMES. TOWARDS THE END, THE AMERICAN COX TRIED TO REVIVE HIS FLAGGING CREW BY DASHING WATER INTO THEIR FACES, BUT OXFORD WERE TOO STRONG AND WON BY 1½ LENGTHS. THE HARVARD BOAT WAS SAWN INTO SOUVENIRS, AND NOW BOTH BOW AND STERN HAVE BEEN RESTORED TO OXFORD

## Sporting Flashbacks

BASED ON A DETAIL FROM A PICTURE PAINTED AT THE TIME OF THE FIRST UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE (1829), THIS SKETCH SHOWS THAT THE COSTUME FOR COX INCLUDED A TOP HAT

## THE HUNDREDTH VARSITY BOAT RACE

The 100th Boat Race between Oxford and Cambridge will be rowed this Saturday. But it is a centenary delayed by exactly a quarter of a century, for the first race was rowed as long ago as 1829 at Henley.

The lag is due to the fact that this great sporting event did not become an annual one till 1856 and also because of two gaps in the series caused by two World Wars.

By 1929 the centenary year, when 81 races had been rowed, the score of wins stood at 40 each with one dead heat. Since then, however, Cambridge have had so much the best of it that rowing men of both Universities, not to

mention the interested public, have been sorely puzzled to discover the reason.

Older people can remember when Oxford invariably won. The records show that in 1898 Oxford had a lead of ten races—exactly the same lead that Cambridge hold today. On two occasions Oxford has had a straight series of nine wins.

Of the last 38 races (between 1905 and 1953) Cambridge have won 27 times and Oxford only eleven. In the same number of races between 1861 and 1898 Oxford had won 25 times and Cambridge only 12, with one dead heat. So it is not such an uneven balance after all.

The record for the course, set up by Cambridge in 1948, is 17 minutes 50 seconds.

But the figures are not really important. The University Boat Race captured the public imagination right from the start. Big crowds, most of whom have never sat in an "eight" or any racing craft in their lives, have always turned out to watch it.

And the reason is that it is pure sport. Nobody rows for money and nobody on the bank makes anything out of gambling on the

result. It is a contest for contest's sake, and to be a rowing Blue is one of the greatest distinctions which any sport can offer.

Those who row in the Boat Race do so for the fun of the thing and the pleasure of tackling one of the stiffest tests in sport. Perfect control of muscle, mind, and attention are required; and it is surely the perfect example of team work.

Of all the people present on the great day the men in the boat are the only ones who see nothing of the race at all. They are much too busy!

### ESKIMOS HAVE THEIR FLING

A Scots member of an expedition sponsored by the Arctic Institute of North America says, "Many of the dances of native Eskimos are easily recognisable as Scottish, especially the eightsome reel!"

It is thought that Aberdeen crews in Scottish ships which used frequently to call in the area must have taught the Eskimos the Highland flings. Anyway, it is a good way of keeping warm.

## COAL UNDER THE SEA

Certain areas of the Firth of Forth, off the Fife coast, have been chosen for undersea boring to locate seams of coal lying below the sea-bed. Boring operations will be carried out from a special tower which is now under construction.

This tower will consist of a platform which will be floated out to the site and then raised out of the water on girders. On the platform will be a miniature power station, the drilling rig, life-rafts, and navigation aids such as sirens, lights, and radio communications. There will also have to be living quarters for the engineers engaged on the work.

If the boring operations are successful in the sheltered tidal waters of the Firth of Forth the experiment may be extended to the rougher conditions of the open sea off the coast of Northumberland and Durham, where the surveyors suspect that there are more deposits of undersea coal.

### NEW CHEMICAL OF MANY USES

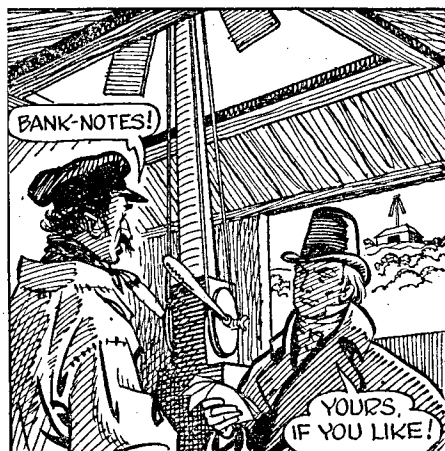
Hydrazine is a new and very versatile chemical which may play an important part in taking man to the moon.

A spaceship may quite likely be powered by Hydrazine, and the chemical could also be used in processing the fuselage, for helping preserve the food supplies, and in making special clothes for the crew.

Until quite recently Hydrazine was most expensive and details of its development were "top secret," but now news of its almost unlimited possibilities has been released in America and Canada.

As an insecticide it has great possibilities, and in the manufacture of metals, drugs, and textiles its amazing versatility is being demonstrated. Towards the end of the war Hydrazine was used as fuel for aircraft.

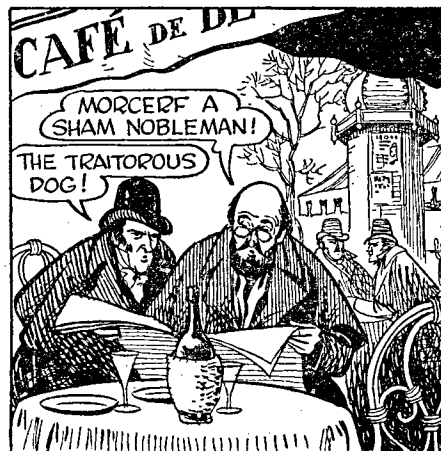
## THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO—Alexandre Dumas' famous story told in pictures (7)



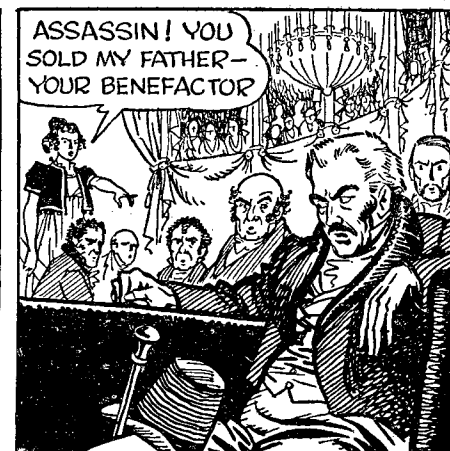
Believing himself to be the instrument of God, Edmond set about punishing those who had treated him so cruelly. In those days the semaphore was the forerunner of the electric telegraph. He visited a lonely semaphore post and gave the operator 25,000 francs to transmit false news about events in Spain. When this was published in Paris, Danglars sold his Spanish bonds and, eventually, lost a million francs.



Danglars, in financial difficulties, sought to break off his daughter Eugenie's engagement to Albert de Morcerf, and he invited to his house young Cavalcanti, whom Edmond had introduced to Paris society as a rich man. In case of trouble with Albert's family, the banker wanted to learn something of the shady activities of his old enemy, Morcerf. Edmond advised him to write for information to Yanina, in Greece.



As a result, Parisians were astonished to read this news item in their papers: "The French officer in the service of Ali Pasha of Yanina... who not only surrendered the castle there but sold his benefactor to the Turks... has since added to his Christian name a title of nobility. He now calls himself the Comte de Morcerf, and ranks among the peers." Nothing of this had ever been made public before.



The House of Peers (France was then a kingdom) tried Morcerf for his dishonourable conduct. Haidee, Ali Pasha's daughter, of whom Edmond was now guardian, gave evidence and proved Morcerf's guilt. He gazed at her in horror. "I have no reply to make," he told the President, and dashed from the House. He was convicted of felony, treason, and conduct unbecoming a member of the House of Peers.

How will Albert take his father's downfall, brought about by Edmond? See next week's instalment



The Children's Newspaper, April 3, 1954

# ACCORDING TO JENNINGS

By Anthony Buckeridge

Jennings and Darbshire have been given a cricket bat inscribed with the signatures of all the players in two county teams. They agree to share the gift between them—the bat to belong to Jennings and the autographs to Darbshire; but when Jennings tries out the bat on a wet cricket ball, Darbshire rushes forward to stop him.

## 11. Jennings jumps to conclusions

"WHAT'S up, Darbshire? What are you looking so fossilised about?" Jennings demanded, as his friend continued to dance round in agitated circles.

"Look what you've done to my autographs!" moaned the agitated dancer.

Jennings glanced down at the bat. A round, red stain was clearly visible where the wet ball had made contact with the blade. Darbshire pointed to it in alarm and despondency.

"You mustn't use it for hitting with!" he protested in horrified tones. "Every time you zonk the ball you'll make dirty marks all over my nice clean autographs."

"I can't help that; it's just your bad luck," Jennings answered with a shrug.

"But it isn't fair hitting hard balls with famous autographs—or even soft ones, either." It was not often that they saw Darbshire so moved to indignation, but now he bridled in defence of his

rights, like a mother hen protecting her brood.

"Oh, don't be so fussy!" Jennings retorted. "What's the good of a bat if you can't use the thing? Besides, the signatures will probably wash off anyway, when we oil it."

"We aren't going to oil it," Darbshire maintained stubbornly.

"It won't be much use as a bat if we don't."

"It won't be much good as an autograph album if we do! Those



Mr. Wilkins found Jennings and Darbshire engaged in a bitter struggle

sort of bats aren't meant to be used, I'd have you know."

"Of course they are," said Jennings. "You don't think Mr. Findlater's given it to us just so we can sit and watch it during the long summer evenings, do you? Anyway, it's half mine and I'm jolly well going to use it."

"Well, the other half's mine, and I say you jolly well can't."

They had reached deadlock. They glared angrily at each other, all joy in their gift forgotten in this unhappy wrangle. Neither would yield an inch, and for some moments it seemed that their long-lasting friendship would founder on this rock of discord.

## Intervention

Oddly enough, it was Mr. Wilkins who saved the situation. He arrived at the cricket net to find Jennings and Darbshire engaged in a bitter struggle.

"Now then—now then, you two! What's going on here?" the master demanded.

They told him.

"H'm," mused Mr. Wilkins. "And for the second time that month his kind heart suggested a solution, at some cost to himself. 'What you need is another bat to play with so you can keep this one for exhibition purposes. All right, Jennings. I'll give you your old one back,' he said gruffly. 'But if there's any more trouble about oiling it in the corridor, or bombarding people with chalky dusters, I'll—well, there had better not be any trouble.'"

"Yes, sir. Thank you very much, sir."

The confiscated bat was returned the following morning. But Jennings had no chance of using it that day as the weather turned wet and cricket was cancelled in favour of swimming practice.

The school's indoor swimming bath had been in use since the last week of May, but it was not until half-term was passed that the boys started practising in earnest for the inter-house swimming sports, which always took place in the middle of July.

## Swimming team

Jennings was a good swimmer, and he had been chosen to captain the Drake House junior team in its relay contest with the opposing house of Raleigh. Already in his mind he had picked the members of his team—Venables for the first lap, then Bromwich major, then Temple; and finally himself to provide the finishing spurt. He would like to have included Darbshire, but his friend's prowess in the water was a little uncertain.

At the beginning of the term Darbshire had been nothing more than a land-lubberly splasher who bobbed up and down in the shallow end with the non-swimmers. Lately, however, he seemed to have made remarkable progress. His name now appeared on the list of qualified swimmers and, what is more, he had invented an entirely novel method of propelling himself through the water.

"Watch me, everybody," he announced as he stood chest-deep in the swimming bath that afternoon. "I will now demonstrate my famous air-screw, paddle-steamer stroke."

"Go on, then, Darbshire," encouraged Atkinson from the side of the bath. "We'll pull you out, if you go under."

"Of course I shan't go under," retorted Darbshire. "This is a supersonic, new sort of contra-rotating-butterfly stroke, with jet-propelled ankle movements. The important thing about it is that it leaves your hands free for—well, for scratching your head, or waving to spectators . . . Just you watch!"

## Darbshire demonstrates

He drew in a deep gulp of air and disappeared beneath the water. A moment later a disturbance like a small-scale depth charge showed that the demonstration was taking place. Every now and then a hand, a foot, or an elbow would break the surface as the swimmer trundled his way across the bath, like some clumsy sea-serpent performing a nightmare water ballet.

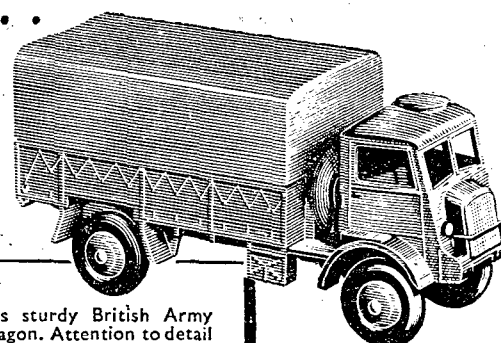
"Old Darbi's swimming's coming on like a house on fire, isn't it, Jen?" said Atkinson admiringly. "He's zooming along just like a frogman."

"He's a bit small for a frogman," Jennings pointed out. "More like a tadpole-man, I'd say."

After swimming was over, Jennings decided to go and see Matron and ask her for a piece of sticking-plaster with which to bandage a slight scratch he had sustained on his knee. That, at any rate, would be his excuse; though the truth was that he always enjoyed a chat in Matron's sitting-room.

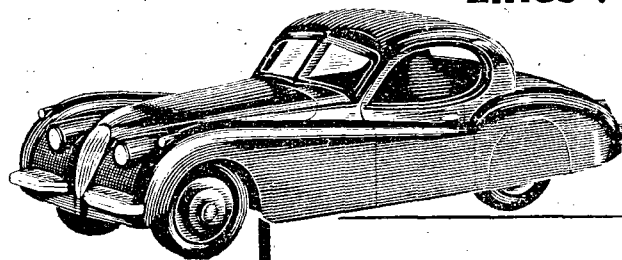
Continued on page 10

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# SPORTS SHORTS

Two important Soccer internationals are to be played this week: Wales meet Ireland at Wrexham, this Wednesday, and on Saturday Scotland meet England at Hampden Park, Glasgow. England are already sure of a place in the World Cup to be staged next June, in Switzerland, but Britain's second representatives will depend on the results of this week's games.

WHILE their seniors are engaged at Hampden Park on Saturday the England schoolboys will be playing the Scottish schoolboys at Wembley. Several weeks before the match nearly all the 90,000 tickets had been taken.

NEXT Tuesday sees the start of the 21st world table tennis championships, at Wembley. Nearly 500 players will be competing, representing over 60 countries.

SIR JOHN HUNT's daughter Sally has no desire to be a mountaineer. But she is showing her father's capacity for leadership. At 15 she is captain of netball at the Farmhouse School, Great Missenden, Bucks, unbeaten for two seasons.

THIRTY-TWO teams will be competing in the inter-County women's netball championships at Lytham St. Anne's this weekend. Surrey, who have been top county for many years, are expected to retain the title, although they will be without Mrs. Sheila Lerwill, the world's high-jump record-holder, now living in the Middle East.

AMONG changes announced by the M.C.C. is an alteration in the law governing the new ball. Captains will now be able to call for a new ball after 200 runs have been scored, instead of after 65 overs.

NIGEL GIBBS, who was capped for England's Rugby XV against Scotland recently, gave up Rugby at Oxford University to concentrate on hockey. Brother of George Gibbs, who has also been capped for England at Rugby, Nigel is a Soccer coach at Charterhouse School.

SOCCER or boxing? That is the question 21-year-old Freddie Morris is trying to decide. Former British schoolboy boxing champion, and now S.E. London amateur lightweight champion, he has had trials in Arsenal's junior sides this season. But boxing and football do not mix, so he must decide to concentrate on one or the other.

Is this the world's biggest cricket victory? In a recent inter-University match in Southern India, Mysore declared at 791 for nine, and then dismissed their Utkal opponents twice for 97 runs.

AUSTRALIAN sprinter Hector Hogan recently equalled two world records in one afternoon: the 100 yards in 9.3 seconds, and the 100 metres in 10.2 seconds. These times, new Australian records, make Hogan a favourite for the sprint titles in the forthcoming Empire Games at Vancouver.

# ACCORDING TO JENNINGS

Continued from page 9

For Matron was a young and friendly person in whom everyone always confided their troubles and problems... And even as Jennings was mounting the stairs to her room she was busy coping with her latest problem—a little matter brought to her attention by Mr. Wilkins.

"I wonder if you'd help me, Matron," Mr. Wilkins had said, when he had arrived at her sitting-room a few minutes earlier. "An old friend of mine's getting married on Saturday week, and the headmaster's given me leave to go up to London the day before and stay for the wedding."

## No Suit

Mr. Wilkins' problem concerned the suit which he intended to wear at the ceremony. He had sent it to be cleaned on receiving his invitation, and now he had heard that it was not due to be returned until the midday post arrived on the Friday of his departure.

"I was hoping to go up to town first thing on the Friday morning," he explained. "It seems a pity to waste time hanging around for the postman."

"That's all right, Mr. Wilkins," Matron replied. "If you'll let me know where you're staying, I'll forward the parcel on to you as soon as it arrives."

"Thank you, Matron; that's very good of you."

It was then that a knock sounded

on the door, and Jennings limped painfully into the room.

"Oh, please, Matron, I've scratched my knee, and I'm in ghastly agony—honestly, Matron," he began.

Matron was sorry to hear it. "Come in and sit down, Jennings. I'm busy at the moment." She turned again to Mr. Wilkins and said: "Let me make sure I've got this straight. You're definitely leaving here on Friday week, is that so?"

"That's right, Matron," he replied jovially, searching in his pocket for a scrap of paper on which to write the address of his hotel. "First thing after breakfast, and by Jove! I shan't be sorry to go. Somebody else can cope with Form Three, and I hope they enjoy it."

## Surprising news

Jennings gaped in astonishment at what he had just heard.

So Mr. Wilkins was leaving!... After all these years at Linbury he had decided to seek a change... It was incredible... Unbelievable! And yet it must be true, for had not Mr. Wilkins confirmed the news with his own lips?

What a good thing it was, Jennings reflected, that he had been on hand to hear of the forthcoming departure. For this was important news that must be acted upon without delay!

To be continued

The Children's Newspaper, April 3, 1954

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CRAVEN HILL writes about...

## BRISTOL'S FINE ZOO

ALTHOUGH Bristol Zoo is one of the smaller zoos—barely half the size of London Zoo—it is one of the neatest and most picturesque in the land.

Situated on the downs at Clifton, almost within a stone's throw of Clifton College, the grounds are beautifully laid out with lawns and flower beds. As one visitor observed to me: "I always think Bristol Zoo the cleanest and tidiest of the lot!"

However, Bristol has also gained distinction for its animals. One of its most famous exhibits was



Milk for Compo the Chim

the 35-stone gorilla Alfred, who died a few years ago after living in the Zoo for many years.

Since then, Bristol has been unable to acquire another gorilla. But it has many other amusing apes, among them the chimpanzees Compo and Susan, who went there recently from the London Zoo.

And the Zoo has a very fine Monkey Temple, in which a number of Indian rhesus monkeys run about, often viewing visitors through the temple windows and waving to them.

### THE FIRST LIGER?

Another feature in which Bristol takes great pride is its tropical bird house, which is stocked not only with rare and exotic birds but with all manner of hothouse plants and blooms, so that at times it resembles a vast conservatory.

Before long, Bristol may achieve the distinction of being the first zoo in this country to breed a liger, as the offspring of a tigress and a lion is called. Mr. R. F. Greed, the superintendent, tells me that zoos throughout the country are watching this experiment with interest.

"Our two-year-old tigress unfortunately has no proper mate," said Mr. Greed. "We have tried repeatedly to get a tiger for her, but in vain. So we are introducing her gradually to a young lion (born here in 1952) in the hope that eventually, when she has got used to him, first through a grille between the cages, they can be run together."

Mr. Greed is optimistic about the outcome. "Both animals seem to be on very friendly terms already, and I hope that in a few weeks' time they can share the same cage," he said.

### OTHER PLANS

Incidentally, this is the second time that Bristol has tried a cross-breeding experiment of this nature. Just before the war they were hoping to produce a tigon—the result of mating a tiger with a lioness. But the war interrupted plans and the animals had to be moved to another part of the country for safety.

Other plans now maturing at this West Country zoo include the building of a special rhinoceros house. "Our two young rhinos, Stephanie and Willie, have been sharing quarters with the elephants and giraffes," says Mr. Greed. "But all being well, we hope to have their new house ready to open by Easter, or soon afterwards."

### NEW ARRIVALS

New arrivals at Bristol include a pair of lesser pandas which came from India by air. "We were in a bit of a difficulty with them at first," said Mr. Greed. "The only green food these animals will eat is bamboo leaves, of which we had only a very small supply. We had to put an advertisement in the local paper asking for people who had any of these leaves in their gardens to send us some."

"We had a marvellous response to that appeal, having offers from as far away as Cornwall. As a result the pandas are well set up."

Other interesting new arrivals at Bristol are six baby West African puff-adders. These babies are part of a family of 20 born recently at London Zoo, and were taken to Bristol by train by Mr. Bert Jones, Bristol's head-keeper, who had them safely packed in a zinc-lined box for the journey.

## STAMP NEWS

FOR this week issues two new stamps on behalf of the island's War Memorial Anti-Tuberculosis Campaign. One will sell at 1 1/2d. plus 1/4d., and the other at 2 1/2d. plus 1/4d., the extra in each case going towards the fund.

In addition to the Queen's portrait, both stamps bear attractive designs. The 1 1/2d. depicts a typical Fijian river scene and a banana tree. The 2 1/2d. shows a Cross of Lorraine, symbol of the campaign against tuberculosis, with a border of Fijian tapa cloth.

SOUTH AFRICA is considering a complete new range of stamps depicting African wild life.

AMONG the new stamps to be issued in France will be a series featuring the luxury industries of tapestry, fine printing and binding, porcelain and glass, jewellery, and flowers and perfume. Another stamp in preparation will mark the tenth anniversary of the Normandy Landings.

A NEW stamp issued by Denmark commemorates the 100th anniversary of her telegraph service.

TWO new Italian stamps mark the introduction of television. They show a map of Italy on a TV screen.

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